# Aruba I ODAY

On Top Of The News

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Friday, May 14, 2010

INSIDE TODAY
WORLD NEWS

#### **SEEING RED**



Maj. Gen. Maj. Gen. Khattiya Sawasdiphol, also know as "Seh Daeng" center, is flanked by security guards during an interview at the anti-government protesters' encampment Thursday, May 13, 2010, in Bangkok, Thailand

Read more on Page A7

**SPORTS NEWS** 

#### O CANADIENS



Pittsburgh Penguins' Jordan Staal (11) watches as Montreal Canadiens' Brian Gionta (21) celebrates his third-period goal in Game 7 of the NHL hockey Eastern Conference semifinals in Pittsburgh on Wednesday, May 12, 2010. The Canadiens won 5-2 to take the series. It was Gionta's second goal of the game.

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In this still image from video, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement officers take a man into custody outside a home searched by FBI agents in Watertown, Mass., Thursday, May 13, 2010.

Associated Press

# Searches in Times Square bomb probe yield 3 arrests

GLEN JOHNSON MARK PRATT

**Associated Press Writers** 

WATERTOWN, Massachusetts (AP) — Three Pakistani men suspected of providing money to Times Square car bomb suspect Faisal Shahzad were arrested by the FBI in a series of Thursday morning raids across the Northeast, law enforcement officials said.

The searches in Massachusetts, New York and New Jersey were the product of evidence gathered in the investigation into the Times Square bomb attempt two weeks ago, but there was "no known immediate threat to the public or any active plot against the United States," FBI spokeswoman Gail Marcinkiewicz said.

The three men — two in the Boston area and one in Maine — were arrested on suspected

immigration violations, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement spokesman Brian Hale said. They were not immediately charged with any crime, including any terrorism-related offenses. Attorney General Eric Holder said federal investigators believe there is evidence that the men were providing Shahzad, a Pakistanborn U.S. citizen, with funds, but that "one of the things we are going to be trying to determine" is whether the men knew the funds might have been for an act of terrorism. A top Massachusetts law enforcement official, who spoke on condition of anonymity because the investigation is ongoing, said of the two Boston-area men: "These people might be completely innocent and not know what they were providing money for, but it's clear there's a connection."

Continued on Next Page



In a Saturday, May 1, 2010 file photo, protesters gather outside the Arizona Capitol in Phoenix to protest Arizona's controversial new immigration bill

**Associated Press** 

#### AP-Univision Poll: Immigration splits Americans

ALAN FRAM

**Associated Press Writer** WASHINGTON (AP) Illegal immigrants are a boon, not a burden to the United States, a resounding majority of Hispanics say, according to an Associated Press-Univision Poll that underscores sharp contrasts between the views of Hispanics and others. Most non-Hispanics say illegal immigrants are a drain on society. In addition, most Hispanics condemn Arizona's strict new law targeting undocumented immigrants, while only 20 percent of non-Hispanics oppose it.

The survey also found some remarkably similar views between Hispanics and non-Hispanics on the complex, emotional issue of immigration, which has gained prominence this election year.

Continued on Page 3





#### TIMES SQUARE

#### Continued from Front Page

Authorities are now trying to determine the source of the money, the official said.

Two of the men have overstayed their visas and the third is already in removal proceedings, said another law enforcement official, who was not authorized to discuss the ongoing investigation and spoke on condition of anonymity.

Police cordoned off a small house in Watertown, a suburb about 10 miles west of Boston, and a neighbor reported seeing an FBI raid there.

A Mobil gas station in Brookline, another Boston suburb, also was raided. The entrances and exits to the station were cordoned off by yellow tape, and FBI agents were going in and out of the building. Agents also searched and removing items from a

silver Honda Accord in the parking lot.

The car was registered to Mohammad Zameen, 45, confirmed Ann Dufresne, a spokeswoman for the Massachusetts Registry of Motor Vehicles. Zameen also is listed as a resident at the apartment in Watertown. No one answered phone calls at his listed number.

Marcinkiewicz said the arrest in Maine was part of the investigation into the Times Square bomb plot, but said she had no additional details about the arrest.

"They're all connected, but the specifics to Maine I don't specifically know what they were doing," she said.

Homes were searched in Centereach and Shirley, New York, both on Long Island, a law enforcement official told The Associated Press Thursday. The official spoke



Law enforcement investigators carry boxes containing bags labeled "evidence" as they depart a home at 39 Waverley Avenue, in Watertown, Mass., Thursday, May 13, 2010. Federal agents arrested two people and are searching locations in Massachusetts, New York and New Jersey, on Thursday in connection with the failed Times Square car bomb, federal authorities said.

Associated Press

on condition of anonymity because the investigation is ongoing.

Ashim Chakraborty, who owns the home in Centereach, said FBI agents and police officers came to his home Thursday morning seeking to question a couple — a Pakistani man and an American woman —who have lived in the basement apartment for the past 18 months.

The woman, who did not identify herself, was still in the basement Thursday afternoon, telling reporters only, "Drop dead, I'm an American."

In New Jersey, the FBI searched a home in Cherry Hill, N.J., and a print shop in Camden, New Jersey, said FBI spokesman J.J. Klaver in Philadelphia.

Two brothers, Muhammad Fiaez and Iqbal Hinjhara, live at the Cherry Hill condominium, Fiaez said. He said his brother owns the print shop.

Authorities arrived at their home at 6 a.m. local time, Fiaez said, questioned him and his brother on how long they have lived in the U.S. and on the business. After questioning, the FBI told Fiaez he wasn't of interest to them.

Shahzad has been in custody at an undisclosed location since his arrest on May 3 from a Dubai-bound plane at Kennedy Airport. He has waived his right to an initial court appearance and will appear in court as soon as he is finished talking with investigators, U.S. Attorney Preet Bharara said Thursday in White Plains, New York. Federal investigators say he has told them he received weapons training in Pakistan. Elias Audy, 61, of Boston, is listed at the owner of the Mobil station. He was seen by reporters leaving the business afterward and had no comment.

Shahzad, 30, is accused of trying to detonate a bombladen SUV in Times Square on May 1. Police said the bombhad alarm clocks connected to a can filled with fireworks apparently intended to detonate gas cans and propane tanks.

The vehicle smoldered but didn't explode.

Federal agents, tracing Shahzad through the SUV's previous owner, caught him two days later on a plane bound for the United Arab Emirates as it was departing New York's Kennedy Airport. There was no immediate comment from Pakistan on the raids Thursday.

Islamabad has said it was too early to say whether the Pakistani Taliban, which operates from the country's lawless northwest tribal region, was behind the Times Square plot although the U.S. said it found a definite link. But Pakistan promised to cooperate

with the investigation and has detained at least four people with alleged connections to suspect Faisal Shahzad.

Vinny Lacerra, 50, who lives across the street from the house raided in Watertown, said he was in his living room when he heard somebody say, "FBI! Put your hands up!"

Lacerra said he looked out his windows and saw 15 to 20 FBI agents with their guns drawn surrounding the house.

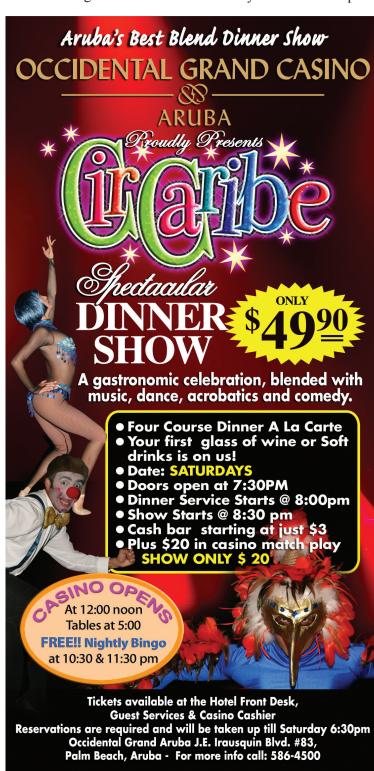
About 15 minutes later, the agents went inside and came out with one man handcuffed and took him down the street, he said. He also said he saw an agent from Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

"I was surprised to see this, because this is what you see on TV," Lacerra said.

There was no indication that Audy, the gas station owner, was a target of the terror probe.

Audy was born in Lebanon, and came to the United States at 19 to study at the University of Houston in Texas and then at Northeastern University in Boston near his brother, according to the website of a used car dealership Audy also owned.

"He's very, very philanthropically-minded as a businessman, very involved in his community," said Harry Robinson, executive director of the Brookline Chamber of Commerce.



U.S. NEWS A3 Friday, May 14, 2010

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AP POLL

Continued from Front Page

About two-thirds of both groups consider illegal immigration a serious problem, only a quarter of each think the Arizona law will ease the state's troubles and the largest portion of both populations think current limits on legal immigration should be left alone.

Even so, much of the poll
— which questioned 901
Hispanic adults and was compared to a separate survey of the general population
— reads as if soundings were taken of two distinct worlds, an impression fortified by follow-up interviews.

"People are not coming to this country to do bad things, people are coming to make money for their families," said Javier Zurita, 43, a factory worker and a U.S. citizen from Ecuador. "These people love this country, they've had sons and daughters in this country."

William Ryan, 38, a contractor, sees things differently.

"It seems like every working illegal immigrant has four family members who don't work. And we're paying for all of them," said Ryan, who is white and non-Hispanic.

According to the poll, 74 percent of Hispanics said the country's estimated 12 million illegal immigrants mostly contribute to society. Just 35 percent of non-Hispanics agreed, with 60 percent saying illegal immigrants are largely a drain.

Some 67 percent of Hispanics said they oppose the Arizona statute. Just 20 percent of non-Hispanics oppose it, with 45 percent favoring it and 30 percent neutral. The law allows local police to demand citizenship papers from people they suspect of being here illegally and to detain

them if they can't produce the documents.

"If I go to the convenience store for a gallon of milk, I don't carry those kinds of things," said Martin Ortiz, 37, a U.S.-born citizen and maintenance worker. "I just slap on a pair of shorts. And a police officer notices me? Why should I get detained?" Countering that viewpoint was Michael Doucet, 25, a technician who is white and non-Hispanic. He wants existing laws enforced and backs the new Arizona statute.

"Illegals are illegal," said Doucet. "It's not a problem with discrimination, it's not a problem with whites hating Hispanics, it is what it is. Most illegals are Hispanic."

Underlining the divergent reactions to the Arizona law, seven in 10 Hispanics hope their states do not enact similar statutes, more than double the non-Hispanics who feel that way.

Nearly nine in 10 Hispanics said a way should be found to help illegal immigrants In a Wednesday, May 5, 2010 file photo, a group of protesters against Arizona's controversial immigration bill march on the State Capitol in Phoenix.

**Associated Press** 

already in this country become citizens, an idea that wins support from just over half of non-Hispanics. Some 62 percent of non-Hispanics — compared with just 24 percent of Hispanics — think being in the U.S. illegally should be considered a serious crime.

By 73 percent to 46 percent, more Hispanics than others said police crackdowns on illegal immigrants are likely to target Hispanics unfairly. About three quarters of Hispanics said they would consider it a big problem if Arizona police questioned a Hispanic who turned out to be here legally, more than double the non-Hispanics who said so.

"It's not one of these things where the Left would have you believe the Gestapo will be out there stomping down doors," said John Wagner, 60, a manager with the Department of Homeland Security.





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## Arubu TODAY

## Obama takes small-business agenda to New



President Barack Obama visits Duff's Famous Wings in Cheektowaga, N.Y., Thursday, May 13, 2010 for wings.

**Associated Press** 

#### JULIE PACE **Associated Press Writer**

BUFFALO, New York (AP) — President Barack Obama urged the U.S. Congress on Thursday to act on a new round of jobs legislation, saying that many American

households still needed help.

"It's great that the stock market has bounced back," Obama said during a threehour stop in western New York, a region already in decline long before the

economic downturn. "But if you're still looking for a job, it's still a recession. If you can't pay your bills or your mortgage, it's still a recession. No matter what the economists say, it's not a real recovery until people

can feel it in their own sent Congress a proposal to lives."

Citing last week's economic reports showing job growth in the U.S. for the fourth straight month, the president argued that his efforts to rescue the economy are working. He focused on his administration's efforts to help small businesses.

But given an unemployment rate that continues to hover near 10 percent, Obama urged Congress to act to measures that could further strengthen small businesses. Buffalo, he toured Industrial Support Inc., a manufacturing job. Period." growing talked company, employees after opening remarks and a question-andanswer session.

The president has said the success of small businesses will be vital to the nation's economic recovery.

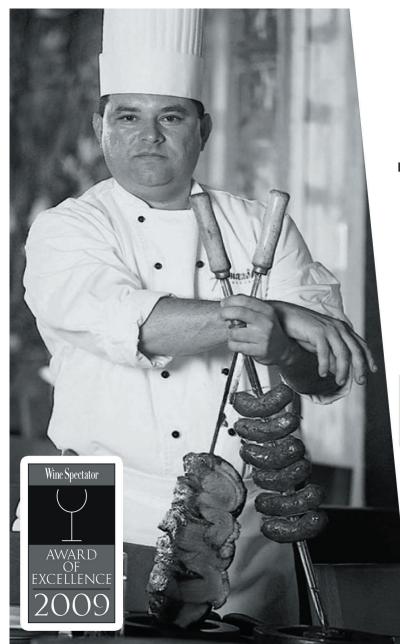
Last week, the president Square.

create a \$30 billion support program to unfreeze credit for small businesses.

Help for small businesses would be especially welcome in cities like Buffalo, where large corporations have downsized manufacturing jobs have been shipped overseas.

Two New York state residents who've started a website to draw attention unemployment quickly on new job creation other problems they blame on Washington put up a billboard along Interstate 190 that reads: "Dear Mr. President. I need a freakin

> From Buffalo, Obama traveled to New York City for a Democratic congressional fundraiser. At the city's police headquarters, he thanked officers responded to the May 1 attempted bombing in Times





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## Settlement reached in 26 priest sex abuse cases

Matano asked for prayers to help the victims heal from the abuse. "This has been a very painful process for the victims and for all the members of our diocesan family," Matano said. "I once again apologize most sincerely for the pain the victims have suffered. I ask that you join me in praying always for these wounded and

hurt brothers and sisters." The lawsuits accused the diocese of negligent hiring, and many of the cases centered on the defrocked Rev. Edward Paquette, who was the target of allegations before he transferred to Vermont in the mid-1970s. Paquette had worked in parishes in Rutland and Montpelier and in Christ

the King Church in Burlington, and he was accused of molesting dozens of altar boys. The diocese didn't dispute that the molestations happened. The 80-year-old priest recently told the Burlington Free Press newspaper he was sorry for his actions and prays daily for the families of the people he harmed.

Attorney Jerome F. O'Neill holds a news conference in Burlington, Vt., Thursday, May 13, 2010. The lawyer for former altar boys suing Vermont's Catholic church says the diocese has agreed to settle 26 outstanding priest sex abuse lawsuits for \$17 million. The Roman Catholic Diocese of Burlington has been sued by dozens of former altar boys accusing it of negligent hiring. Many of the cases concerned defrocked Rev. Edward Paquette, who was the target of allegations before he transferred to Vermont in the mid-1970s.

Associated Press

#### LISA RATHKE

#### **Associated Press Writer**

MONTPELIER, Vermont (AP) — Dozens of former altar boys who sued Vermont's Catholic church allegations of sexual abuse by priests 30 years ago will share in a nearly \$18 million settlement of their cases.

The attorney for the 26 plaintiffs and the bishop of the statewide Diocese of Burlington said Thursday they were pleased by the settlement, but both acknowledged that the cases had been difficult for the victims. "Our clients are very happy to have the opportunity to close this chapter in their lives," said plaintiff attorney Jerome O'Neill. "All of them know that nothing goes away, nothing changes the pain. They will live with this the rest of their lives, but at least now they can put this piece behind them and move forward."

An arbitrator will divide the settlement among the plaintiffs, depending on the nature of their injuries, their recoveries and other factors, O'Neill said. Payments are expected by the end of June, he said. Bishop Salvatore





## RAFFLE SCHEDULE

Location: Crystal Casino on Fridays Raffle Dates: May 7th,14th, 21st, 28th, 2010 9:00 p.m. Time: Seaport Casino on Saturdays Location: Raffle Dates: May 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th, 2010 Time:

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## Arubu\_TODAY

## lce hockey mayhem in Montreal brings 41 arrests



A Montreal police officer is shouted at by a man in Montreal, Wednesday, May 12, 2010, after the Montreal Canadiens defeated the Pittsburgh Penguins in Game 7 of the NHL hockey Eastern Conference semifinals in Pittsburgh.

onepeoplewerearrestedinthe mayhem after the Montreal Canadiens eliminated the NHL champion Pittsburgh Penguins. Some stores were looted and police fired tear gas at hundreds of bottlethrowers.

The Canadiens ousted the Penguins late Wednesday to reach the Eastern Conference final against Boston or Philadelphia, prompting a celebration that degenerated into the looting of several businesses along the Sainte-Catherine Street shopping district.

Those arrested early Thursday were charged with breaking and entering, theft, assault and public mischief, police chief inspector Sylvain Lemay said.

Police estimated as many

MONTREAL (AP) — Forty- as 50,000 people took part in celebrations outside the downtown arena. More than 20,000 filed out of the Bell Centre after the 5-2 victory. Many of these fans moved a few streets north to join those along Sainte-Catherine Street.

> Lemay said 400 to 500 people were partying when looting began after midnight. A sporting goods outlet and a liquor store were hit hard.

> The scene, however, was not as chaotic as it was two years ago when cars were burned and downtown stores were smashed and looted after the Canadiens beat Boston in the first round of the playoffs. There also were riots after Montreal's Stanley Cup victories in 1986 and 1993.

"There was very little damage compared to 2008," Lemay said.





**Associated Press** 

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#### SCHEDULE FOR WEEK OF **MAY 13 - MAY 19**

\*matinee: thursday - sunday | late show: friday & saturday

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	AT REN	AISSANCE	- ORANJI	ESTAD		
PG-13	HOT TUB TIME MACHINE				NEW	
	daily:	4:00	6:15	8:30		
	matinee:	1:45		late show:	11:00	
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	daily:	5:00	7:15	9:30		
	matinee:		2:45	late show:	11:45	
PG-13	THE LOSERS					
	daily:	5:15	7:30	9:45		
	matinee:	12:45	3:00	late show:	12:00	
PG-13	3 DEATH AT A FUNERAL					
	daily:	4:45	7:00	9:15		
	matinee:	12:15	2:30	late show:	11:30	
PG-13	DE GELUKKIGE HUISVROUW					
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PG-13	IRON MAN 2					
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		daily: matinee:	4:15 1:45	6:30	late show:		30
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	PG-13	IRON MAN	2				
		daily: matinee:	5:45 12:15	8:45 3:00	late show:	11:30	



## Rogue Thai general aiding protesters shot in head

JOCELYN GECKER VIJAY JOSHI

**Associated Press Writers** 

BANGKOK (AP) — A rogue army general working with anti-government protesters was shot in the head Thursday while talking to reporters in downtown Bangkok, triggering more clashes that left one demonstrator dead and worsening Thailand's political chaos.

Gunfire crackled well into in the night after the government declared it will blockade 10,000 Red Shirt demonstrators who have occupied and paralyzed the center of the capital for two months.

The developments further eroded chances of reestablishing peace in this deeply divided Southeast Asian nation where the mostly rural, poor protesters are seeking to topple the government and hold new elections that they hope will give them a greater share of power.

The Red Shirts have turned a 1-square-mile area in the posh Rajprasong neighborhood into a sprawling camp, with portable bathrooms, free food and a stage from which their leaders deliver daily anti-government diatribes.

The streets around it turned into a virtual war zone following the shooting of Maj. Gen. Khattiya Sawasdiphol. **Protesters** stopped police trucks and forced them to turn back; they hurled rocks at soldiers, who responded by firing live ammunition, Associated Press cameraman Raul Gallego.

Killed in the shooting was Chartchai Bualao, 25, who was hit in the eye, according to the government's medical emergency center. Soldiers resumed firing after an ambulance took his body away. At least seven other people were injured.

Khattiya was shot in the head while talking to a New York Times journalist near the Silom subway station on the edge of the occupation zone. The station entrance is surrounded by tall office buildings, leading to suspicions a sniper fired the shot.

Times reporter Thomas Fuller, answering questions on the newspaper's website, said he was about a half-hour into the interview when he asked the general, "Do you think the military is going to launch a crackdown, and do you think they'll be able to penetrate the barricades here?"

"And there was a bang as he was answering it, and I think his last words that I heard were, 'The military cannot get in here.' And then immediately (he) just fell, just collapsed," Fuller said. "He was looking right at me. I think the bullet went over my head and hit him in the forehead."

Wearing his trademark camouflage uniform, Khattiya slumped to the ground and one person cradled his head for a while. later. Moments others dragged him by the legs, his head sliding on the ground and leaving a trail of blood. The emergency center said Khattiya was shot in the head and admitted to a hospital's intensive care unit. Asked if troops shot Khattiya, government spokesman Panitan Wattanayagorn refused to give a direct answer. "The operation by authorities was according to international standards and law. So far, we have not found any actions by the authorities that went beyond that," he told the AP.

About 90 minutes before he was shot, Khattiya gave interviews to a series of foreign reporters, including the AP. The 59-year-old Khattiya, known by his nickname Seh Daeng, said he anticipated a military crackdown soon.

"It's either dusk or dawn when the troops will go in," said Khattiya, who was shot soon after night fell.

The Red Shirts demand an



This image taken from video shows Maj. Gen. Khattiya Sawasdiphol, a renegade army general accused of leading a paramilitary force among Thailand's Red Shirt protesters, being helped at the scene in Bangkok, Thailand after he was shot in the head Thursday, May 13, 2010. In an interview with The Associated Press about 90 minutes before he was shot apparently by a sniper, Khattiya said he anticipated a military crackdown soon, as security forces moved to seal an area of central Bangkok which has been occupied by thousands of the protesters for weeks.

Associated Press

immediate dissolution of Parliament. They believe Prime Minister Abhisit Vejjajiva's coalition government came to power illegitimately through manipulation of the courts and the backing of the powerful military.

Tens of thousands of Red Shirts streamed into the capital March 12 and occupied the historic downtown area. An army attempt to clear them April 10 led to clashes that killed 25 people and wounded more than 800. Another four people were killed in related violence in the following weeks.

On Thursday, the government extended a state of emergency to cover 17 of Thailand's 76 provinces to prevent more people from joining the protesters in the capital.

The decree gives the army broad powers to deal with protesters and places restrictions on civil liberties. The government spokesman said it is intended to prevent "masses of people trying to come to Bangkok."

Thursday's violence was expected to deepen fears of

more bloodshed.

"I am gravely concerned about the safety of the protesters," said Tyrell Haberkorn, a political scientist at The Australian National University. "Longterm, the outlook for peace and democracy in Thailand is bleak," she said in emailed comments.

Khattiya was suspended from the army in January and became a fugitive from justice last month when an arrest warrant was issued against him and two dozen others linked to the Red Shirts for their purported roles in the violence. Yet he wandered freely through the protest zone, signing autographs near government security forces.

The government labeled him a "terrorist" and a mastermind behind some of the violence.

Khattiya helped build the Red Shirt barricades of sharpened bamboo stakes and tires around the protest area, was accused of creating a paramilitary force among the protesters and had vowed to fight the army if it launched a crackdown. He bitterly opposed

reconciling with the government and had become critical of Red Shirt leaders, some of whom had wanted to accept a compromise.

Earlier Thursday, Col. Sansern Kaewkamnerd said security forces were preparing to impose a lockdown on the protest area. The army spokesman said armored personnel carriers and sharpshooters would be sent to surround the zone, and power, public transportation and cell phone service were suspended in the area.

The Red Shirts see Abhisit's government as serving an elite insensitive to the plight of most Thais. The protesters include many supporters of former Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra, populist leader accused of corruption and abuse of power and ousted in a 2006 military coup. Thaksin, a former telecommunications billionaire who fled overseas to avoid a corruption conviction, has publicly encouraged the protests and is widely believed to be helping bankroll them. He claims to be a victim of political persecution.

## niti urges prison for U.S. missionary

**Associated Press Writer** 

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP) — A U.S. missionary should spend six months in prison for her failed attempt to remove 33 children from Haiti following the Jan. 12 earthquake, a prosecutor said Thursday on the first day of her trial.

Prosecutor Sonel Jean-François told the court that Laura Silsby knew she was breaking the law by trying to take the children without proper documents to an orphanage she was starting in the neighboring Dominican Republic.

"Laura recognized she violated the law," Jean-François said as lawyers and a small group of spectators crowded into a a stifilingly hot tent in the parking lot the quake-damaged courthouse.

He spoke after the Idaho

woman testified. Silsby, who was leader of a group of Baptists detained by authorities, was the only person to testify on the first day of the trial. She spent much of the rest of the session reading the Bible.

40-year-old businesswoman told the court she thought the childrenwereorphanswhose homes were destroyed in the earthquake. As it turned out, all the children had at least one living parent, who had turned their children over to the group in hopes of securing better lives for

"One week after the earthquake I left my family and my home to help children that had been orphaned in the earthquake," Silsby said. "We came here with a heart to help."

The next session of the trial is expected next week.

Silsby has been in custody since Jan. 29, when she and nine other Americans were detained at the Dominican border. other missionaries have all been released and charges against them dismissed.

Silsby was originally charged with kidnapping and criminal association. She now faces one count of arrangingillegaltravelunder a 1980 statute restricting travel out of Haiti signed by then-dictator Jean-Claude Duvalier. She would receive credit for time served if she is convicted and sentenced to prison, prosecutors told The Associated Press.

Jean Sainvil, an Atlantabased pastor born in Haiti allegedly helped who find the children for the missionaries, has also been charged with arranging illegal travel. He is not in Haiti and is being tried in



U.S. missionary Laura Silsby, second from left, sits during an audience at a courthouse in Port-au-Prince, Thursday, May 13, 2010. Silsby should spend six months in prison for her failed attempt to remove 33 children from Haiti following the Jan. 12 earthquake, a prosecutor said Thursday on the first day of her

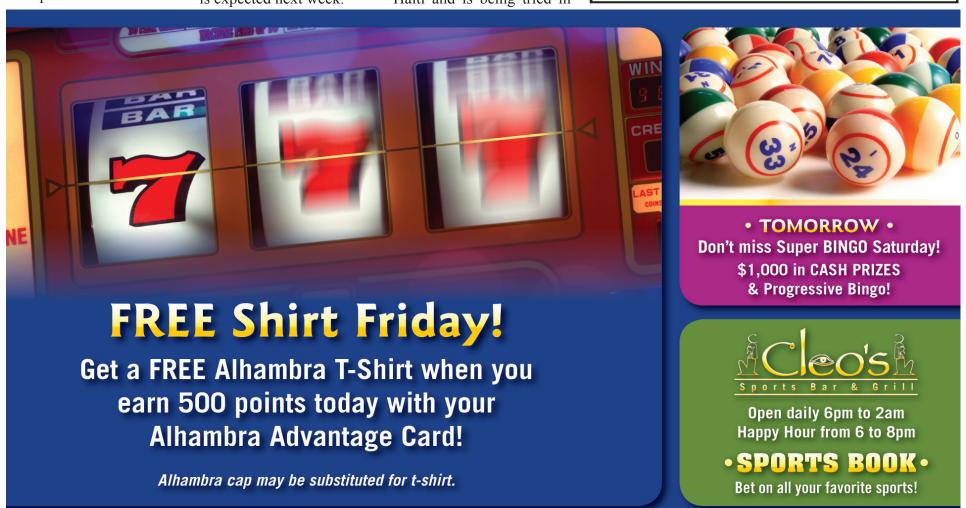
Associated Press

absentia.

came as the Haitian government was trying to control adoptions to trafficking prevent the

children after the The arrest of the Americans earthquake, which killed government-estimated 230,000 to 300,000 people and left some 1.3 million homeless







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## WORLD NEWS A9 Friday, May 14, 2010

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## Offshore natural gas platform sinks off Venezuela

**FABIOLA SANCHEZ Associated Press Writer** 

Venezuela CARACAS, (AP) — A natural-gas platform sank off Venezuela on Thursday after workers escaped in lifeboats and the last few leaped into the Caribbean Sea. The oil minister said there was no threat to the environment and all 95 workers were safely evacuated.

Oil Minister Rafael Ramirez told state television that workers disconnected a tube leading from the gas fields to the Aban Pearl platform, preventing any leak or harm to marine life. He said alarms went off three hours before the sinking, giving the crew time to evacuate.

Many stepped into lifeboats drifted free, said Abraham Natera, the rig's superintendent. Ramirez said the Indian captain and two assistants, including an American, stayed behind until the platform was badly tilting and about to collapse, and then hurled themselves into the water.

"They had to jump from the platform because at the last moment there was no possibility of getting off by boat," Ramirez told

The navy picked up the evacuees using a frigate and boats after the gas platform sank below the surface at 2:50 a.m. EDT, Ramirez said.

President Hugo Chavez announced the sinking on Twitter, saying: "To my sorrow, I inform you that the Aban Pearl gas platform sank moments ago. The good news is that 95 workers are safe."

Singapore-flagged The platform, built in 1977, has a capacity of 98 people and is owned by a subsidiary of the Indian company Aban Offshore.

"The company is assisting in assessment and in determination of the causes of the incident," Aban said in a statement on its website.

Unlike the disastrous oil spill caused by a rig explosion off the coast of Louisiana on April 20, the sinking of the gas rig posed no apparent threat to the environment, the oil minister said.

"There's no problem of any sort of any leak from the field into the environment," Ramirez said, explaining that safety valves were also shut as the tube was disconnected.

The rig was operating in waters about 525 feet deep off eastern Sucre state. Ramirez said there was a problem with the flotation systems of the semi-submergible platform that led to a huge water leak in one area.

The platform began tilting, until it was at a 45-degree angle and a flare tube that previously jutted out to the side was touching the water. "Of course for some workers this is an emotional shock ... to be on a platform of that size that suddenly starts to tilt, and everything happened very quickly," Ramirez said. He commended the crew for staying calm as they lined up and evacuated on the lifeboats.

Last week, Ramirez stood atop the platform on live television as its gas flare was lit to inaugurate the project. Chavez praised the project at the time as an important step in Venezuela's efforts to tap its huge natural-gas deposits, saying, "We're making history."

The exploration platform at the Dragon 6 gas field was operated by the state energy company Petroleos de Venezuela SA off the Paria Peninsula of eastern



In this undated photo released by Petroleos de Venezuela, S.A. PDVSA, an oil worker points a water cannon at the Aban Pearl platform, off eastern Sucre state, Venezuela. The Aban pearl platform sank off Venezuela on Thursday, and 95 workers were rescued safely and the sinking poses no threat to the environment, according to Venezuela's Oil Minister Rafael Ramirez.

**Associated Press** 

Tobago.

Venezuela, a major oil exporter and OPEC member, is exploring offshore naturalgas fields that are estimated to be among the biggest known deposits in the world.

"Before starting operations, this platform was repaired, inspected and certified," Ramirez told state television. He said it was certified being "in optimal condition."

Specialists will now use robots to inspect underwater structures that supported the platform to

Venezuela, near Trinidad and try to determine what went wrong, he said.

> Officials have been flying over the area, and many of the evacuated workers were being taken by boat to the town of Carupano on the coast, Ramirez said. Some were flown to the coast by helicopter.

> The state oil company is making contacts to obtain a replacement platform within the next two months, and the sinking should not affect Venezuela's overall plans to move ahead with exploration to tap the undersea gas deposits, Ramirez said.

Friday, May 14, 2010 PEOPLE & ARTS

#### Anuba\_TODAY

## 'Lost' fans plan series finale parties



FILE - In this Dec. 1, 2006 file photo, Jay Glatfelter works on his second computer in his bedroom/studio at his home in Raleigh, N.C. Glatfelter co-hosts 'The Lost Podcast with Jay and Jack' with his father Jack.

#### By DERRIK J. LANG,

#### **AP Entertainment Writer**

LOS ANGELES - "Lost" changed Cliff Ravenscraft's life. The insurance agent and his wife began dissecting the mind-bending ABC drama in a weekly podcast as a hobby in 2005. Ravenscraft loved the medium so much, he ditched his career in 2008 and now makes a living from podcasting and consulting. When the show's creators announced the series finale would air May 23, Ravenscraft knew he needed to plan something huge.

"I recognized early on that this was going to be something bigger than my living room," he said.

Ravenscraft reserved the entire restaurant at the Hilton Cincinnati Airport hotel in Florence, Ky., for the one-timeonly occasion. He expects over 75 visitors from as far away as The Netherlands to attend the

(AP Photo/Karen Tam)

finale fete and nosh on a buffet dinner - no boar meat, he promised — while watching the final "Lost" spectacle from a high-definition projector.

"You don't want to watch something as big as this by yourself," said Ravenscraft. "My wife and I are diehard 'Lost' fans. We have a community of over 50,000 subscribers. These people want to get together with each other. There is no doubt in my mind that on that evening, we're going to need some Kleenex on hand. My wife has already shed tears over this." Jay Glatfelter, who co-hosts "The Lost Podcast With Jay and Jack" with his father Jack, is planning something even bigger. He enlisted a sponsor, Global Cash Card, and rented out the Orpheum Theatre in downtown Los Angeles to watch the final exploits of Jack, Hurley, Kate, Sawyer

and company. Glatfelter said the nearly 2,000 tickets have already sold out.

"I don't know what to expect," he said. "I hope that it's going to be exciting and scary all at the same time, just like the show. If nobody likes the finale, there may be a riot. It's downtown Los Angeles after all, but I hope it's going to be a lot of fun. The 'Lost' community is like one big family. We can laugh together, and we can cry together."

Along with studying the finale, the event boasts a question-and-answer session with actor Michael Emerson (who plays Benjamin Linus), panel discussions from "Lost" bloggers and podcasters and a live edition of Glatfelter's podcastimmediatelyfollowing the finale. The event will also feature the winner of a video contest receiving a replica Dharma Initiative van.

Some fans are keeping it simple. Bobby "Fatboy" Roberts, who assays "Lost" with partner Cort Webber on their podcast "The Cort and Fatboy Show," has been organizing "Lost" viewing parties for 600 like-minded fans at Portland's historic Bagdad Theater since the final season began airing Feb. 2. The duo are planning a similar soiree for the series finale.

"Cort and I will get up, say hello, thank everyone for coming on the ride with us, then get out of the way so we can endure the two hours of show and 30 minutes of commercials," said Roberts

## Lil Wayne accused of breaking **NYC jail music rules**



FILE - In this Jan. 30, 2009 file photo, Rapper Lil Wayne arrives on the red carpet for the **ESPN Next Big Weekend Super** Bowl XLIII party in Tampa, Fla. An official says Lil Wayne's efforts to keep up the beat behind bars have gotten him in trouble in a New York City jail. A city Correction Department spokesman says the rap star faces potential discipline after jail officers found a charger and headphones for a digital music player in his cell on Monday, May 10, 2010. The rapper is serving a yearlong sentence after pleading guilty to a 2007 gun charge.

(AP Photo/Steve Nesius, File)

#### By JENNIFER PELTZ, **Associated Press Writer**

NEW YORK - Lil Wayne's efforts to keep up the beat behind bars have gotten him in trouble in jail, an official said Thursday.

The Grammy Awardwinning rapper faces potential discipline after jail officers found a charger and headphones for a digital music player stashed in his cell Monday, city Correction Department spokesman Stephen Morello said. Lil Wayne is serving a yearlong sentence after pleading guilty to a gun charge.

The items are considered contraband, as inmates can listen to music only on radios and headphones sold at the jail commissary. Lil Wayne's lawyer, Stacey Richman, had no immediate comment Thursday.

Officers said the music player itself turned up in another inmate's nearby cell. Both men were charged with infractions that aren't crimes and will be subject to a jail disciplinary process, not a court. Punishments can include being segregated from other inmates.

Lil Wayne began serving his term in March in the city's Rikers Island jail complex. He pleaded guilty in October to attempted criminal possession of a weapon, admitting he had a loaded semiautomatic gun on his bus in 2007.

The 27-year-old rapper hasn't had any previous disciplinary problems in jail, where he works as an "inmate observation aide," Morello

The job entails engaging with other inmates deemed at risk of suicide.

Born Dwayne Carter, Lil Wayne had the best-selling album of 2008 with "Tha Carter III," which won a best rap album Grammy.



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## BUSINESS A11 Friday, May 14, 2010

## Stocks fall after drop in retail, financial shares



FILE - In this May 10, 2010 file photo, Specialist James Aherns, left, works at his post on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange. Stock futures are trading in a narrow range Thursday, May 13, after a report showed first-time unemployment claims did not fall as low as expected last week.

(AP Photo/Richard Drew, file)

#### By STEPHEN BERNARD and TIM PARADIS, AP Business Writers

NEW YORK – A late-day slide left stocks lower Thursday following a disappointing forecast from department store chain Kohl's and a drop in financial shares.

The Dow Jones industrial average ended down about 114 points after shooting up by nearly 149 on Wednesday. Stocks mostly made modest moves for much of Thursday's trading but fell in the final hour. The drop signaled that traders remain on edge and not sure about the market's direction.

Kohl's Corp. slid 5.8 percent and dragged other consumer stocks lower after its increased forecasts fell short of what analysts had been expecting.

Bank stocks fell on reports that New York's attorney general is examining eight banks to determine whether they misled ratings agencies about mortgage securities.

Tech shares also got hit after investors saw a forecast from computer networking equipment Cisco Systems Inc. as cautious. The stock fell 4.5 percent to post the steepest drop among the 30 stocks that make up the Dow.

Meanwhile, an economic report signaled that gains in

the job market are proceeding slowly. The Labor Department said first-time claims for jobless benefits dipped to 444,000 last week from an upwardly revised 448,000 the previous week. Economists had expected claims to drop to 440,000.

While a fourth straight weekly decline in claims is a welcome sign, it hasn't been enough to signal sustainable job growth. Economists estimate weekly initial claims need to fall below 425,000 to show employers are consistently adding workers. Claims have stalled around the 450,000 level throughout the year.

High unemployment remains a major obstacle to a strong recovery. The unemployment rate jumped to 9.9 percent last month, although employers added 290,000 jobs. Investors want to see consistent job creation as well as regular declines in claims for jobless benefits before becoming confident that the labor market is healing.

"The initial jobless claims are still going the wrong way," said Dave Rovelli, managing director of trading at brokerage Canaccord Adams in New York.

According to preliminary calculations, the Dow fell 113.96, or 1.1 percent, to

10,782.95. The Standard & Poor's 500 index fell 14.23, or 1.2 percent, to 1,157.44, while the Nasdaq composite index fell 30.66, or 1.3 percent, to 2,394.36.

Two stocks fell for every two that rose on the New York Stock Exchange, where volume came to 1.2 billion shares, compared with 1.3 billion Wednesday.

Volume has been decreasing this week since stocks jumped on Monday on relief over Europe's nearly \$1 trillion plan help debt-strapped governments in the European Union. Some analysts say that the drop in volume is a sign of flagging confidence in the market's moves.

Stocks rose Wednesday after a Commerce Department report said exports rose in March to their highest levels since late 2008

Bond prices rose. The yield on the benchmark 10-year Treasury note, which moves opposite its price, fell to 3.57 percent from 3.58 percent late Wednesday.

Gold fell, a day after setting a record high.

Crude oil fell \$1.25 to \$75.40 per barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange.

European markets rose, but there is still some concern about the long-term health of the continent's economy. The euro again lost value compared to the dollar as investors remain unsure whether countries like Greece and Spain that are saddled with debt will be able to cut spending and still manage to grow.

Worries about weak economic growth across Europe have pushed the euro to a 14-month low against the dollar. The euro has lost about 12 percent of its value against the dollar since the beginning of the year.

The Russell 2000 index of smaller companies fell 6.26, or 0.9 percent, to 709.85.

# New claims for unemployment insurance inch down

By CHRISTOPHER S. RUGABER,

**AP Economics Writer** 

WASHINGTON – New claims for unemployment benefits dipped for the fourth straight week, a sign the job market is improving at a slow but steady pace.

Employers, encouraged by a recovering economy, are hiring again. But they are not doing it at the level needed to reduce the jobless rate.

The Labor Department said Thursday that initial claims dropped last week by 4,000 to a seasonally adjusted 444,000. That's slightly above analysts' estimates, according to Thomson Reuters. The previous week's total was revised up to 448,000.

The four-week average, which smooths out volatility, registered a steeper decline. It fell by 9,000 to 450,500 — close to the average's lowest level this year reached in late March. After dropping steadily last year from a peak of 651,000, first-time claims have fluctuated at around 450,000 since January. Many economists would like to see claims fall faster, which would be a sign of more hiring.

"We expect claims to continue to move lower over the coming weeks and will feel more comfortable about the prospects for sustainable job creation when claims drop below the 400,000 mark," economistsatRDQEconomics said in a note to clients. David Resler, chief economist at Nomura Securities, noted that the claims figure is the third lowest since Lehman Brothers collapsed in September 2008, intensifying the financial crisis.

The stock market dipped after the report. The Dow Jones industrial average fell 21 points in morning trading, while other indexes were mixed.

Other recent indicators have



FILE - In this April 29, 2010 file photo, Ann Converso, of Buffalo, N,Y., joins other protestors during a rally near city hall, in New York. New claims for unemployment benefits dipped for the fourth straight week, a sign the job market is improving at a glacial pace.

(AP Photo/Frank Franklin II, file)

shown improvement in the job market. Employers added 290,000 jobs in April, the most in four years. That's a positive sign that companies are confident enough in the economic recovery to step up hiring. But much more hiring is needed to make up for the loss of more than 8 million jobs in the recession. The unemployment rate rose last month to 9.9 percent as the new jobs weren't enough to offset the more than 800,000 people that started or resumed job searches. The economy expanded at a 3.2 percent pace in the Januaryto-March quarter, the third straight quarter of growth. That followed four quarters of decline as the economy struggled through the worst downturn since the 1930s.

One of the companies hiring is Cisco Systems Inc. John Chambers, CEO for the computer networking equipment maker, said Wednesday the company hired 1,000 new people in the quarter ending May 1.

# SPURIS TODAY

AL Roundup

## Verlander, Cabrera help Tigers win series vs Yanks

DETROIT (AP) — Justin Verlander pitched shutout ball into the seventh inning to outduel CC Sabathia as the Detroit Tigers beat the New York Yankees 6-0 in the American League on Thursday.

The Tigers took three of four from New York, handing the Yankees just their second series loss of the season.

Verlander (4-2) won his third straight start, giving up four hits and four walks in 6 2-3 innings.

CC Sabathia (4-2) lost for just the third time in his last 13 road games, allowing six runs on nine hits in six innings.

Cabrera and Brennan Boesch gave the Tigers a 3-0 lead with back-to-back homers down the right-field line in the fourth.



Detroit Tigers starter Justin Verlander pitches against the New York Yankees in the first inning of a baseball game Thursday, May 13, 2010 in Detroit.

Associated Press

#### Orioles 6, Mariners 5

At Baltimore, Luke Scott's grand slam capped a fiverun eighth inning against reliever Brandon League as Baltimore rallied to beat Seattle from 5-1 down.

The Orioles held on to win when left fielder Corey Patterson nailed Josh Wilson at the plate for the final out. Wilson tried to score from second on Ichiro Suzuki's single.

Held to five hits over seven innings by Seattle starter Felix Hernandez, the Orioles promptly broke loose against League (3-3). Corey Patterson, promoted from Triple-A earlier this week, hit a leadoff homer in the eighth to start the comeback.

Rangers 2, Athletics 1, 12 innings

At Arlington, Texas,

Vladimir Guerrero delivered an RBI single in the 12th inning for Texas to beat Oakland.

Guerrero was 0 for 5 before lining a shot deep into the left-center gap off Oakland closer Andrew Bailey (0-1) to drive home Michael Young.

Elvis Andrus led off the 12th with his fourth hit, but was then caught stealing. Young drew a walk and Josh Hamilton had a single before Guerrero's winning hit

Jake Fox had three hits for Oakland.

#### Royals 6, Indians 4

At Kansas City, Missouri, thehometeam fired manager Trey Hillman immediately after Zack Greinke earned his first win in eight starts at Cleveland's expense.

Alberto Callaspo hit a threerun homer and the Royals snapped a seven-game skid by roughing up Cleveland starter David Huff (1-5) and giving Greinke (1-4) his most run support of the season. The hard-luck right-hander made the most of it, winning for the first time since September by allowing up three runs in six innings.

The 47-year-old Hillman was in his third season with Kansas City and went 152-207. Former Milwaukee manager Ned Yost, who had joined the Royals' front office in January, took over.

In other AL games it was, Baltimore 6, Seattle 5; Detroit 6, N.Y. Yankees 0; Texas 2, Oakland 1, 12 innings; and Kansas City 6, Cleveland 4.□

## Tiger Woods says he has inflammation of neck joint



Golfer Tiger Woods smiles during a news conference at Aronimink Golf Club, Monday, May 10, 2010, in Newtown Square, Pa.

Associated Press

ORLANDO, Florida (AP)

— Tiger Woods said tests
Wednesday showed an
inflamed neck joint that
causes pain and makes it

hard to turn his head, an injury that will require little more than medicine, massages and rest.

Woods had an MRI that

revealed inflammation in a facet joint of his neck. He said on his website that when facet joints are inflamed, it causes pain in the area along with headaches and difficulty rotating the head. He withdrew from the final round of The Players Championship on Sunday after a week in which he was seen stretching and rolling his neck. Woods said his neck had been bothering him since before he returned from a five-month layoff at the Masters, and that it was not related to the Nov. 27 car accident when he ran into a tree, setting off revelations of infidelity. "I now need to take care of this condition

and will return to playing golf when I'm physically able," Woods said.

Woods said treatment will include physical therapy, such as soft-tissue massage, rest and anti-inflammatory medicine. He said the prognosis was for a full recovery, and while the layoff is not expected to be long, rehab can vary.

Woods said in a press conference this week that he hoped to be able to defend his title at the Memorial, which starts June 3 at Muirfield Village. His next tournament will be his first without swing coach Hank Haney, who stepped aside Monday.

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## SPORTS A13 Friday, May 14, 2010

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NHL Roundup

## **Canadiens eliminate Pens**

PITTSBURGH (AP) — The Montreal Canadiens followed up a monumental upset by pulling off another, and now the Pittsburgh Penguins are joining the Washington Capitals in sitting out the rest of the Stanley Cup playoffs.

Brian Gionta had two power-play goals, Mike Cammalleri scored his seventh goal of a series in which he upstaged Sidney Crosby and Evgeni Malkin and the Canadiens built a stunning four-goal lead before beating the Penguins 5-2 in Game 7 of the Eastern Conference semifinals Wednesday.

Montreal accomplished what no team has done since the current playoffs format was adopted in 1994 beat the Presidents' Trophy winner and defending Stanley Cup champion in successive rounds as an eighth-seeded team.

When it ended, the CanadienscrowdedJaroslav Halak, who made 37 saves



in a performance not quite as dominating as that in Montreal's 2-1 elimination win of Washington, but one that sent the Penguins home and shut down the NHL's oldest arena.

Gionta opened the scoring at 32 seconds on a power play with Crosby off for boarding, Dominic Moore made it 2-0 later in the period and Cammalleri scored his playoff-leading 12th goal at 3:32 of the second. Travis Moen added a short-handed goal at 5:14, with Marc-Andre Fleury then giving way in goal to Brent Johnson.

Chris Kunitz and Jordan

Staal scored for Pittsburgh in the second, but Gionta made it 5-2 midway through the third period.

#### Flyers 2, Bruins 1

At Philadelphia, Michael Leighton stopped 29 shots in his first start in nearly two months to help Philadelphia force Game 7 in Boston on Friday night.

Philadelphia's postseason appeared over after it lost the first three games. Not now. The Flyers are on the brink of history — and a spot in the Eastern Conference finals against Montreal. The 1942 Toronto Maple Leafs and the 1975 New York Islanders are the only teams

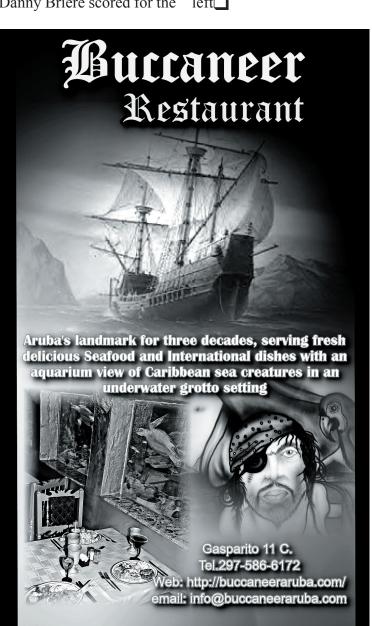
The Montreal Canadiens celebrate after defeating the Pittsburgh Penguins 5-2 in Game 7 of the NHL hockey Eastern Conference semifinals, in Pittsburgh on Wednesday, May 12, 2010. The Canadiens advanced to the conference finals.

**Associated Press** 

to overcome 3-0 deficits to series. Mike Richards and Danny Briere scored for the

Flvers win a best-of-seven playoff Milan Lucic scored for Boston with a minute





## Aruba TODAY

## MLB: 2011 All-Star game will not move from Pho



Baseball commissioner Bud Selig gestures as he speaks to reporters during a news conference at Major League Baseball headquarters, Thursday, May 13, 2010 in New York. Selig is ignoring calls to move next year's All-Star game from Phoenix because of Arizona's new immigration law.

Associated Press

**RONALD BLUM AP Sports Writer** 

NEW YORK (AP) — Major League Baseball commissioner Bud Selig is ignoring calls to move next year's All-Star game from Phoenix because of Arizona's new immigration

Asked about such demands at a news conference Thursday following an owners meeting, he responded with a defense of MLB's minority hiring record.

"Apparently all the people around and in minority communities think we're doing OK. That's the issue, said. "I told the clubs today: 'Be proud of what we've done.' They are. We should. And that's our answer. We control our own fate, and we've done very well."

Chicago White Sox manager Ozzie Guillen said he wouldn't participate in next year's All-Star game if it it." remains in Arizona because of the law, which empowers police to determine a person's immigration status. The Major League Baseball Players Association condemned the law and New York congressman Jose Serrano, whose district includes Yankee Stadium, sent Selig a letter asking him to move the game.

Selig cited sports sociologist Richard Lapchick, whose annual report from the University of Central Florida's Institute for Diversity and Ethics in Sports last month gave MLB an A for race and a B for gender hiring. Selig also referenced a lifetime

and that's the answer," he received in March from the Jackie Robinson Foundation.

> "We're a social institution. We have done everything we should do — should do, our responsibility," he said. "Privilege to do it. Don't want any pats on the back, and we'll continue to do

> Meanhwile, Arizona business leaders urged Selig to not move the All-Star game from Phoenix.

Leaders of the Arizona Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the Greater Phoenix Economic Council, Arizona Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and 10 other groups on Thursday released a letter in which they ask Selig to not take a position against the state by moving the game.

The letter says a relocation would cost jobs "innocent citizens, including our Hispanic community,' and it says MLB shouldn't become "a pawn in a political debate."





## SPORTS A15 Friday, May 14, 2010

## lones lead Texas Open

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Matt Jones eagled the par-5 14th hole and finished with a 6under 66 to take a one-stroke lead Thursday after the first round of the Texas Open.

Jones the 30-year-old Australian also had four birdies in a back-nine 30 on the Greg Norman-designed Oaks Course at TPC San Antonio, the tournament's new site after 15 years at La Cantera.

Paul Stankowski opened with a 67, and J.B. Holmes, Matt Weibring, Charley Hoffman and Steve Lowery had 68s. Ernie Els, a two-time winner

this year, had a 72. He was 3

under on the final five holes, making a tap-in eagle on 14 after a 293-yard second shot.

"Obviously, this golf course is a little bit different than we play week in and week out, and I think to some of the players it's a little bit of a shock," Els said. "Back to even par, but I feel like, you know, it could have been a low score out there. The wind dropped for us."

Els' playing partner, Vijay Singh, left several putts just short, but finished with a birdie for a 73. Zach Johnson, the two-time defending champion, made a 7 on the par-3 13th and ended up with an 8-over 80. Jones rebounded after making a double bogey on the first

"A double wasn't the start we wanted, but the first hole is not an easy starting tee shot there at all," Jones said. "It's very narrow.

"After that, it was just a battle to get back to even par on the front nine, and then I made about a 30-footer for par on 11, which kind of kept me going. And from there on, we had six birdies and an eagle."

Jones hit a 3-wood approach from 276 yards to 8 feet on

# CK 9 SCORES

Paul Stankowski, of Flowermound, Texas, watches his putt on the 9th hole during the first round of the Texas Open golf tournament, Thursday, May 13, 2010, in San Antonio.

**Associated Press** 

par 3s.

"With these greens, if you miss a tee shot you're working hard to par or birdie," Jones said. "If you miss a second shot, it's tough out of the bunkers and runoffs they have on the greens. These par 3s aren't easy.

To have three birdies on par-3s is quite good."

Jones, whose best finish this season is a share of seventh two weeks ago at Quail Hollow, teed off among the round."

He birdied three of the four morning groups before the temperature on a humid, windy day climbed into the mid-80s.

> Stankowski birdied five of his final 15 holes

> "This would rival one of the most solid rounds I've played in years," Stankowski said. "I know in the wind, you have one option — to go ahead and hit solid shots, and I did that today. This was a good day, and this is really how I would love to draw them every

# French rider Pineau wins 5th Giro stage



Italy's Vincenzo Nibali celebrates on the podium after completing the fifth stage of the Giro d'Italia, Tour of Italy cycling race, from Novara to Novi Ligure, in Novi Ligure, Italy, Thursday, May,13, 2010. French rider Jerome Pineau took advantage of an unlikely three-man breakaway to win the fifth stage of the Giro d'Italia on Thursday, while Vincenzo Nibali held onto the overall lead.

**Associated Press** 

— French rider Jerome Pineau took advantage of an unlikely three-man breakaway to win

NOVI LIGURE, Italy (AP) the fifth stage of the Giro d'Italia on Thursday, while Vincenzo Nibali held onto the overall lead.

Pineau, who rides for the Quickstep team, covered the mostly flat 101-mile route from Novara to Novi Ligure in 3 hours, 45 minutes, 59 seconds. "Three weeks ago I wasn't even thinking about coming to the giro, but Quickstep believed in me and now this is the greatest victory of my career," Pineau said.

Another Frenchman, Julien Fouchard, finished second, and Yukiya Arashiro of Japan crossed third.

All three riders broke away from the main pack shortly after the stage started, and they worked well enough together to throw off the calculations of the chasing sprinters' teams.

The main pack had the three breakaway riders within their grasp on the final kilometer but couldn't close the gap, leaving American sprinter Tyler Farrar to cross fourth at the front of the group, 4 seconds behind.

Nibali maintained a 13-second lead over Liquigas teammate Ivan Basso, and became the first rider to wear the overall leader's pink jersey two days in a row. "I hope that's a good sign I'll wear it over the next few days, too," Nibali said.

Friday's sixth stage of 107 miles from Fidenza to Marina di Carrara includes a few short climbs.

## **Munoz top LPGA Tour** leaderboard in Mobile

MOBILE, Alabama (AP) — Azahara Munoz shot a 7under 65 on Thursday to take a one-stroke lead over Katherine Hull and Jee Young Lee in the Bell Micro LPGA Classic, the LPGA Tour's first event since Erica Blasberg was found dead.

Munoz, the former Spanish amateur star had a bogeyfree round on The Crossings course at the Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail's Magnolia Grove complex.

Blasberg died Sunday in suburban Las Vegas and her agent said she had been all set to attempt to qualify for the field at Magnolia Grove. Police have not said if they suspect foul play. The coroner said a ruling on a cause of death was pending blood and tissue tests that could take four to six weeks to complete.

Cristie Kerr, Meena Lee, Janice Moodie and Hye Jung Choi shot 67s, and Suzann Pettersen, Eunjung Yi, Sun Young Yoo and Amanda Blumenherst opened with 68s. Jiyai Shin, No. 1 in the world ranking following Lorena Ochoa's retirement two weeks ago after the Tres Marias Championship in Mexico, had a 70.

Japanese star Ai Miyazato, the Tres Marias winner for her third victory in the first five events this season, also opened with a 70. Michelle Wie shot a 72.

The tournament wasn't played in 2009 because of course renovation work. In September 2008 at Magnolia Grove, Angela Stanford beat Shanshan Feng by a stroke.

Stanford shot a 70 on Thursday.

# SPURIS ERODAS

## Federer, Nadal get through to Madrid quarters

**GUY HEDGECOE Associated Press Writer** 

MADRID (AP) — Roger Federer and Rafael Nadal comfortably reached the quarterfinals of the Madrid Masters on Thursday.

The top-ranked Federer beat Swiss countryman Stanislas Wawrinka 6-3, 6-1 and second-ranked Nadal saw off big-serving John Isner of the United States 7-5, 6-4.

Defending champion Federer never looked troubled against Wawrinka, and appears to be shaking off the dip in form that saw him lose in the semifinals in Estoril and the second round in Rome recently. In the quarterfinals he'll play Ernests Gulbis of Latvia, who beat him in Rome.

Isner, who reached the clay final in Belgrade last weekend, held his own against Nadal before losing his serve in the 11th game of the first set, during which he received treatment to his arm.

Nadal served out for the set





Rafael Nadal from Spain reacts during the match against John Isner from USA the Madrid Open Tennis Tournament in Madrid, on Thursday, May 13, 2010.

and broke the American early in the second before holding his service for victory.

"It was a very dangerous and difficult match and I played well, and when I had chances with the return I took them," said Nadal. "For me it was a very important victory."

Nadal came into the Madrid Masters on the back of tournament wins in Monte Carlo and Rome. The 2005 champion and 2009 finalist hopes to extend the record for Masters titles of 17 he shares with Andre Agassi.

Another favorite to win the tournament, third-seeded Andy Murray, had little trouble beating Victor Hanescu of Romania 6-2, 6-1.

Two breaks of serve in each set saw the Scot stroll to victory, setting up a quarterfinal with David Ferrer, who beat Marin Cilic of Croatia 6-3, 6-2.

Murray hadn't won two matches in a row since Indian Wells in March and he was pleased.

"Hanescu isn't an out-andout clay-court player so it was a different match than you normally get, but I felt comfortable," Murray said.

"I know that against the claycourters I'll have to play more aggressively and will have to improve."

Earlier, Fernando Verdasco's 7-5, 6-3 third-round loss to Jurgen Melzer of Austria left only three of the top eight seeds in the tournament.

Associated Press

With the center court's retractable roof closed due to rain, the sixth-seeded Verdasco looked well below his best and had treatment on his right ankle after the first set.

Melzer broke early in the second set before Verdasco broke back for 3-3. Melzer took the next three games to clinch victory over Verdasco for the second time in seven attempts and reach his fifth quarterfinal this season.

A frustrated Verdasco said his ankle was hurting after he injured it in the previous round against Ivo Karlovic, although he said the match conditions also bothered him. "I haven't played indoors for months and I've never had the opportunity to train here with the roof closed — I think it gave him the advantage," he said. "He's more of an indoor player than an outdoor player, which also went against me. The court also wasn't in the best condition, which made me miss certain shots that were very important."

Melzer will next play Nicolas Almagro of Spain, ensuring there will be at least one unseeded player in the semifinals. Almagro beat Juan Monaco of Argentina 6-4, 6-1

In the women's third round, eighth-seeded Samantha Stosur of Australia beat Patty Schnyder of Switzerland 7-6 (3), 6-2 to set up a quarterfinal with Venus Williams.

"It's Venus so you have to expect a good match," Stosur said. "Clay probably isn't her favorite surface. We've played a few times and I've never been able to win so it's one of those times when I have to go out there and give it my best shot."

Seventh-seeded Jelena Jankovic of Serbia cruised through against Anabel Medina Garrigues of Spain, 6-2, 6-0, while Aravane Rezai of France beat Andrea Petkovic of Germany, 6-4, 7-6 (8).

Li Na of China beat Alona Bondarenko of Ukraine 6-3, 6-4 and Shahar Peer of Israel defeated Arantxa Parra Santonja of Spain 7-5, 6-2.

# Venus Williams to move up, making sisters 1-2

ST. PETERSBURG, Florida (AP) — Serena and Venus Williams are going to be back at the top of the rankings together for the first time in seven years.

The WTA Tour says Venus Williams is assured of moving up to No. 2 on Monday, one spot behind younger sister Serena. It will mark the 46th week overall the siblings have been Nos. 1-2 — but they haven't occupied those spots since May 2003.

The rankings set up the sisters to be seeded 1-2 for the next Grand Slam tournament, the French Open, which begins on May 23. That would mean they could meet only in the final at Roland Garros.

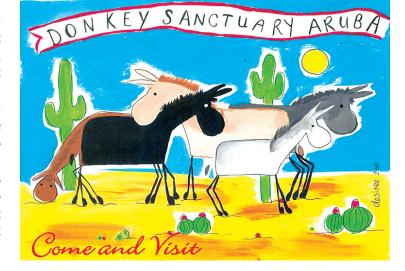
The sisters first were at Nos. 1-2 in the rankings in June



Venus Williams from US returns the ball during her match against Francesca Schiavone from Italy at the Madrid Open Tennis Tournament in Madrid, on Wednesday, May 12, 2010.

Associated Press

2002, when Venus held the top spot, followed by Serena



On Top Of The News

Email: news@arubatoday.com

Friday, May 14, 2010

To urge halting plans to build new hotel

## **Demonstration this Sunday at Fisherman's Huts**



## Save Fisherman's Huts!

FISHERMAN'S HUTS — Concerned citizens are ready to continue their plight to help save the last of stretch of Palm Beach. The group that calls itself 'I Love Aruba, Save Fisherman's Huts' hopes to convince the government and developers not to build a new hotel at the popular

windsurfing spot, Fisherman's Huts. The Venezuelan developer Desarollos Hotelco, plans to put down a hotel that is intended to be operated by Ritz Carlton.

For years, environmentalists protested against the construction of a new hotel at the site, and even collected







over 3000 signatures in the community which was send to the headquarters of Ritz Carlton. For a while it seemed the action worked, yet last year, before the change in administration here, Desarollos Hotelco was able to get the lease land from the previous government, despite opposition of the party now in power. Prime Minister Mike Eman made a statement that even though his party was dead set against the construction of a new hotel at the particular site, his hands are tight and a possible reversal of the lease land contract could lead to a major lawsuit against Aruba that could end up costing close to the sum of 100 million dollars. This is a risk Aruba cannot afford to take, Prime Minister Eman stated.

But, now other citizens supported by the same environmentalists who years ago tried to block the construction of the hotel at the site, decided there is still time. They consider that Desarollos Hotelco did not act in good faith when it signed the lease agreement in secret, along with the previous government, despite the fact all knew that most in Aruba were against a new hotel. The opposition is not toward a Ritz Carlton, but to a construction of any new hotel building at the area, considered as one of the best wind and kite surf locations in the world. And even more serious, one of, if not the last windsurf spots in Aruba.

The group wants politicians to be more determined and act upon the wishes of the majority on the island that voted in mass against these plans. In addition, studies indicate that any new hotel could have a negative social/ economic impact for Aruba and therefore, no private interest can prevail over general well being of the island. Any judge will first look at the general wellbeing of a nation over the private interest of a company, they argue.

The 'I Love Aruba, Save Fisherman's Huts' group will have their next demonstration this Sunday, May 16th, at 4:30 pm. The beach walk and swim will take off at the former Beach Police station located between the Phoenix and Westin Hotels. Organizers will sell t-shirts that carry the same message at five florins. The proceeds will be used for continuous campaigns until the group is assured no construction will be permitted at the site. People supporting the plight are also asked to sign a (new) petition letter to Parliament members to urge them to stop the hotel construction and to help preserve the unique spot for future generation.





## Aruba\_TODAY

## Women's Club of Aruba distributes donations



EAGLE BEACH – On the evening of May 11th, 2010, the Women's Club of Aruba distributed donations to eleven

different local foundations. Welfare Chairman Fran Mosconi, along with her committee members hosted the check presentation affair at La Cabana Beach and Racquet Club.

A total of 40,000 Awg, was distributed to the following not-for-profit organizations: Methodist Church,

Fundacion pa Hende Muhe den Dificultad, Colegio Arubano, Foundacion Muchila, Funari, Fican members who worked

Ficap, Grupo Magdalena, Red Cross of Aruba, WCA emergency fund, Fundacion Respeta Mi and Fundacion Pa nos Muchanan.

Fran thanked her committee members for all their hard work. She also wanted to thank Mani Lopez and her Ways And Means committee members and all the WCA members who worked together to raise the funds to make the donations possible. The Women's Club of Aruba would like to express its sincere gratitude to all locals who contributed and to the business community who supported the WCA efforts this year. Pictured here the WCA meeting at La Cabana Beach & Racquet Club.









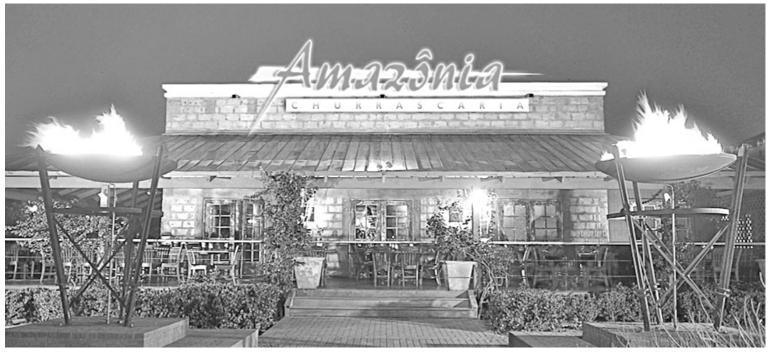


# Amazonia is grateful for expert and timely help extended

PALM BEACH – Amazonia Churrascaria management is grateful for the excellent performance of the fire department as well as the level-headed knowledgeable reaction of its employees.

Restaurant Manager Hubert Solagnier reports that shortly before service on Sunday evening around 6 p.m. an exhaust caught fire on the roof, over the restaurant's kitchen. Chef Victor and Assistant General Manager Carolina Raven evacuated the staff and called the fire department, which arrived immediately to control the situation.

The following day, ELMAR,



and the DTI inspectors in collaboration with cleaning maintenance crews refreshed the restaurant,

installed a new roof top It exhaust and opened for business as usual, without skipping one beat.

collaboration that avoided damages and distress, Solagnier states, also thanking

was a tremendous all of the restaurant's fans and friends who called to support and encourage the clean-up.



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Ever wanted to learn how to direct a film??

## **Art Rules Aruba presents a BONUS WORKSHOP IN Narrative FILM Making!**

ORANJESTAD - Educational Arts program Art Rules Aruba is just two months away and applications for the program have been coming in by storm. Offering 250 students on Aruba an intensive workshop program in several art disciplines including Fashion, Dance, Theatre, Rap & Poetry, Photography & Design and DJ & Music Production, organizers have now added a Bonus workshop in FILM!!

Interested in learing more about film this summer, up and coming Aruban Film maker Joseph

Henriquez will take students on a journey through 'Narrative Digital Film Making".

Born in Oranjestad, Jo finished his VWO Honors High School as valedictorian, entering New York University (Tish School of Arts) in 2006. Facinated by the entertainment industry since he spent many summers at established schools such as Stagedoor Manor and the New York Film Academy.

At NYU he is constantly on film sets working with many great film-makers including NYU

students, graduates and industry professionals. Jo has worked on countless films working his way up, doing every job from the Grip & Electrical to Sound to Camera.

Estabilshing his reputation as a sought after producer amongst his peers he is currently finishing up his senior year at NYU while already working with multiple clients and colleagues, producing and directing everything from Short Films, Music Videos and Concert Coverage, to Commercials and Promotional Web Clips.

For Art Rules Aruba Jo will teach students the language of







craft as applied to the digital format, aspects of mise-enscene, visual storytelling, continuity-style coverage, directing actors and writing visually. If you are a fan of film this is clearly a workshop you wont want to miss!!!

With 3 main catagories in filmmaking: Narrative (Fictional) Films, Documentary Experimental, Jo's film class will focus on Narrative Film, making this class a unique opportunity for teens to learn a specific area in film making.

As this is an intensive program that requires a highly creative process, the film workshop will only offer 16 places. Organizers therefore stress that if you are interested apply NOW!!

For more information on this class and the rest of the program, visit the website www.artrulesaruba.com



## Jibison is the new salsa sensation at Garufa











ORANJESTAD – For the past few weeks, Saturday is Salsa Night at Garufa cocktail lounge with the new musical combo, Jibison, with popular local vocalist Anna Para.

The ensemble was put together by musician at heart Nino Kelly, famous for his baby back ribs at the end of main-street. The band played on his open air terrace for a while as Jibison 4, with just four musicians, before it was discovered by David Gross Garcia the manager of Garufa Cigar & Cocktail Lounge who invited them to play at the club.

Kelly who is the band's bongo player reports that the original

Tel: 582-0697 / 583-7484



band members brought some of their friends along and that is how the ensemble grew to six and even seven, on special occasions. Piano man Lucho Argote, the band's musical director is currently working to expand the band's repertory to play contemporary Latin rock/pop favorites by Juanes, and Maná for example, in addition to the band's excellent Salsa, Merenge, Bachata and Cuban style Son Montuno hits.

Jibison recently released its first single recording which is doing very well on the air, and is played often by the local radio DJs.

Check the band out at Garufa this Saturday, but come early as seating is limited.

Enjoy DJ Mixing, complimentary snacks, or buy your favorite bottle at a special price!

Garufa's extensive bar menu lists many hard-to-find beverages, including premium vodkas, sipping tequilas and rare scotches, with more than 60 signature martinis, and a fine selection of Champagne. For the cigar aficionados



Garufa carries the freshest of cigars, Cohiba, Montecristo and Romeo y Julieta, which may be enjoyed with favorites, from among an impressive selection of high-end single malts, cognacs and ports, in combination with one of the famous El Gaucho Snack Platters.





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## **Resisting Change**

**HUMAN HINTS** 

One of the main reasons we have stress in our lives, is that we resist change. The three dimensional hologram is dynamic, in a state of constant flux. Without change, there would be no life cycle, and the three dimensional Universe would not exist.

Yet our natural tendency is to resist change, and we often direct all of our considerable life force at keeping things the way they are, just because we're used to it. We're comfortable when there are no surprises in our lives. It can be scary to let go and step blindly into the unknown. This is when we must rely on our belief in our own ability

to create what we ask for, and to receive abundance from the Universe.

In three dimensions, change is necessary for growth. As we grow, our hologram must also transform. To resist change is to resist our own growth. When we resist change, we alter our destiny and seal our own Fate.

We stop the natural flow of life and prevent further expansion into the unknown. We're afraid of graduating into real life, because we're so comfortable in high school.

Static, unchanging conditions create stagnation, rot and decay. Death takes over when

we don't change because decay is food for life. To resist change is to resist growth. When we don't grow, we lose our joy for life and our ability to help others.

This is not to say that it is alright to shun responsibility in the name of growth. These characteristics help define your energy, and they are an integral part of your personal power.

There is a fine line and a life changing difference between letting go in the name of growth and escaping your commitments. One is a courageous leap of faith into the unknown, the other is cowardly.

Trying to escape your commitments tells the Universe that you can't handle what you have, so it won't give you any more.

The three dimensional hologram is an ever-changing, dynamic environment. When we resist change, we deny our spirit's power. We show the Universe that we don't have faith in ourselves, or in it, and the Universe reflects uncertainty in our lives.

When our lives stray too far from our purpose, our spirit will get us back on track by forcing us into the unknown. When the illusion of structure disappears from your life, the least painful course of action is to go with it. Don't resist change just for the sake of maintaining your relative comfort.

Nothing can stay the same in this dynamic environment held together by constant transformation. The more we understand that all things in the hologram follow the cycle of life and death, the more we can accept change when it comes, and the easier it will

be to relinquish the illusion of control over our lives.

Until Tomorrow...

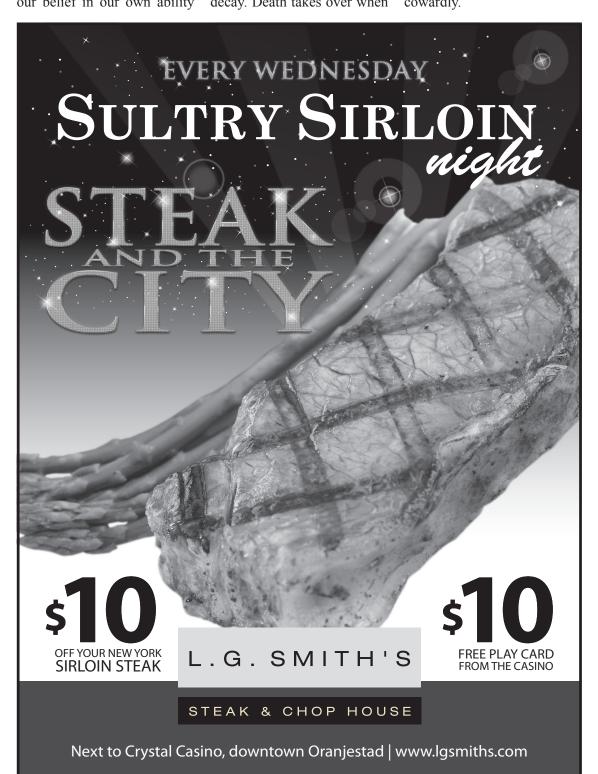
Go to www.HumanHints. com to sign up to receive this column in your email each

#### ~Quentin Danziger

Quentin has over 20 years experience balancing what we refer to as the Real World, with science and spirit. He has held positions of responsibility and authority, received a Bachelor of Science in Engineering Physics from Colorado School of Mines, and has also studied many avenues of alternative thought. HumanHints is the culmination of his knowledge. experience and practice. These free daily emails detail concrete, real-world techniques to consciously create any future you choose, while in the throes of daily life created by outdated modes of thought.

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## **Live Music & Entertainment at Casa Tua Barcelona on Friday Night**



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Our Flamenco Show will be extended this Holiday Season with the performance of Kavey Yarzagaray. This Flamenco guitar player will perform together with Angela Croes on Friday night. This is a show that shouldn't be missed.

The highlight at Casa Tua Barcelona is also the new lunch specials every weekday from Monday till Friday! A \$9.95 lunch special; Beef tenderloin with a red wine sauce or choose the Grouper Fillet for \$11.95. Both dishes include a soft drink. Fresh Fish lovers can treat the palate to the Whole Red Snapper, served with Rice and a salad.

All days of the week we serve Cold and Hot tapas as appetizers or the delicious Iberian Ham Pata



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Of course we saved the best for last as no one does an ending better than Casa Tua with their dreamy Tiramisu. If you're into something different we suggest tasting the Espresso Martini Cocktail as dessert, you won't be disappointed.

The best part about such a good ending is that it 11pm tel. 588 5695. Casa Tua Palm Beach open guarantees you'll be back for more...





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# The Leading Edge opens in Oranjestad











ORANJESTAD -- Uroubo Plaza is home to the Leading Edge, offering an assortment of products in the electronics, recreation and fitness, personal care, house-ware, travel, toy and gift categories, carrying famous Sharper Image and Brookstone merchandise.

Buying gifts is now easy as the new store adjacent to Bijoux Turner downtown carries everything you see on display in the famous Sharper Image and Brookstone stores at leading airports around world from Laptops and Notebooks, to Cameras and CD Players, Shiatsu Massage Pillows, Memory Foam Contour Pillows, Wine Wine Openers, Chillers, Wireless Speakers, Back Pack Speaker Systems, Rotating Speaker Systems, Travel Hair Dryers, Shoe Polishers, Steam Fast Portable Irons, Moustache Trimmers, I-Tower Stereos, Fog Free Shower Mirrors, Pain Controllers, Reversible Notebook and Lap Top Cases, Heart Rate Rings, suitcases, travel bags and the best



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The Leading Edge is offering discounted phone accessories

in honor of its opening, if you miss the store downtown, don't miss it at the Reina Beatrix airport in the duty free departure hall, it is stocked with useful things which are unique, innovative, and





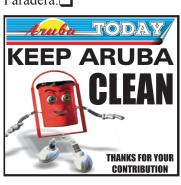






# Rudwin Jansen enjoys his first Holy Communion party at El Gaucho

church service, Rudwin's first Holy Communion party took place at El Gaucho Argentine Grill, and was an excellent success, since Rudwin is a meat-lover. Jansen & Maduro family members and friends came together at the centrallyand beautifully located decorated restaurant and savored delicious lunch with a variety of appetizers and famous main courses in celebration of the occasion. Rudwin, 9, a student at Maria Colegio, experienced his first communion at the church of Paradera.

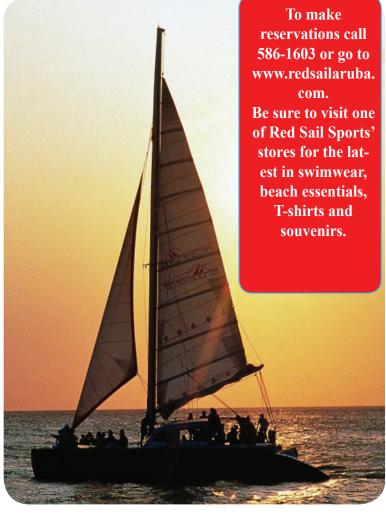




# **Every Friday The Mexican Fiesta Dinner Sail is a must do activity**

Experience the fun and excitement of sailing Mexican-style aboard one of Red Sail Sports' luxurious catamarans. The 2-hour sail takes you along Aruba's scenic coastline, while being delighted by live Mariachi Music.

This vibrant unforgettable sail provides a casual Mexican Buffet Dinner and a complimentary bar featuring Coronita beer, Margaritas, and Tequilas. Watch the sun set, the colors of the sky change and the island slowly light up. This is the perfect sail to celebrate the end of a Caribbean day and the start of a fun filled Caribbean night.





## Anuba\_TODAY

## Tony Roma's is the island's headquarters for ribs!

Many restaurants claim to have the best ribs in the land, but only Tony Roma's world famous ribs continue to rack up taste awards from a variety of cities, regions, and countries across the globe. Tony Roma's Palm Beach brings this classic to Aruba.

Great ribs put Tony Roma's on the map, but the menu also features an array of flame-grilled favorites including steaks, seafood and chicken. The menu also serves up fresh salads, fantastic burgers and sandwiches, grilled fresh local fish, mouthwatering desserts and delicious appetizers - especially the popular, made-fromscratch Onion Loaf.

Today, there are more than 240 locations on five continents. From Seattle to Miami, Tokyo to Madrid, and Calgary to Aruba, Tony Roma's is creating an international incident with its flame-grilled fare. Discover why Tony Roma's is now an island dining institution!



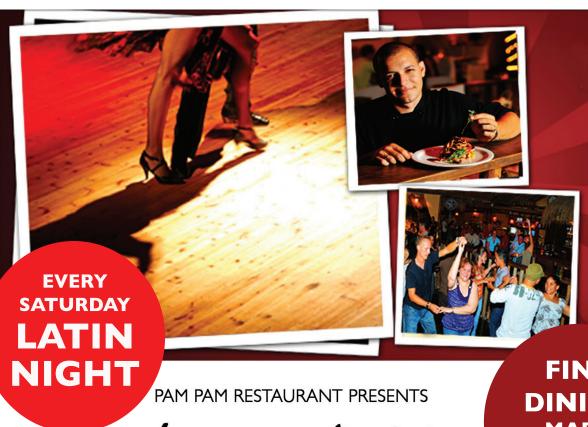






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## Tierra del Sol Pampers Mom with a spectacular Mother's Day Brunch







Jim's favorites as mothers and their family members sat down



for leisurely brunch at the clubhouse. Everything from soups, to omelets, and from seafood to chef's specialties was great-tasting abundant, and the dessert station featured irresistible Quesillo, Bolo di Cashipete, Pan Bojo, Bolo di Chateau, Bolo di Pruim, and Cheese Cake over free-flowing mimosa, accompanied by the music of Angelo Kolman and Juan Carlos Allende.

Each mother received a commemorative photograph as well as a chance to participate in a great give away of Body & Soul spa treatments and lunches. Pictured here, happy moments at Ventanas del Mar on Mother's Day.















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Aruba Autism Foundation says focus of project is not autism

## Debate on dolphinarium proposal should not be geared on autism

should not be part of any discussion related to the DAT. That comment was proposal of a dolphin project in Aruba. The Aruba Autism Foundation' reaction is based on the discussion taking place in Aruba whether a dolphin facility that eventually could offer a dolphin autism therapy "DAT" program is something Arubans could support or not.

Minister Otmar Oduber said that if developers who proposed the project comply with the highest requirements on animal safety, the government is willing to take it into consideration.

The Minister said that he was impressed with

Curação, that provides the interpreted by many here as though the proposed project in Aruba is geared toward autism.

The Aruba Autism Foundation wants to correct that perception. In fact, the foundation argues that the goal of the proposed project is not autism, and therefore, autism should not be part of the public debate.

The foundation for years has been working to elevate awareness and knowledge on autism, as well as to promote expertise on this area. The discussion on the dolphinarium and an eventual autism program detracts from that goal.

ORANJESTAD—Autism the dolphin program in Particularly since Aruba and the foundation on the still lacks a structure of help and guidance for families affected by autism.

> During its first International requires Autism Symposium Aruba, the foundation was able to bring to the island a number of international experts who with the hundreds of participants deliberated and presented various possibilities guidance and therapies. The foundation is currently pushing to help increase required services to the public, and therefore was happy with the willingness of Ministers of Education Arthur Dowers and of Social Affairs Michelle Hoovboer Winklaar work with Autism Speaks

development of a national autism strategy plan.

Life affected by autism special structured guidance, preferably offered early to young children.

It is not known, despite positive experiences, whether the DAT should be a priority.

The Aruba Autism Foundation is of the opinion that before considering the DAT, the island should have basic services for autism in place. Speech Therapy for instance is crucial to help children with their communicative skills and currently it is not covered by the general medical insurance, with

the exception for public For employees. parents it is a too expensive undertaking. Therefore, Aruba Autism Foundation believes it is not in the interest of the Aruban families who struggle with autism that so much attention is given to the DAT, while there they themselves do not have access to the basic necessity to help their children affected by autism. Moreover, scientists are still in a limbo whether the dolphin therapy has a lasting effect, and while no one disputes the positive effects, it is a matter of personal decision. same is true for dog and horse therapies for people affected by autism. The foundation says no animal therapy should take place without taking the safety of both the individual and the animal into consideration.

The foundation emphasizes that in no circumstances has anyone, either from the government or otherwise tried to put pressure on the organization to issue a statement against or on behalf of the dolphin project. That is a matter that does not fall in the scope of the Aruba Autism Foundation.

For comments visit the website www. autismoaruba.org.

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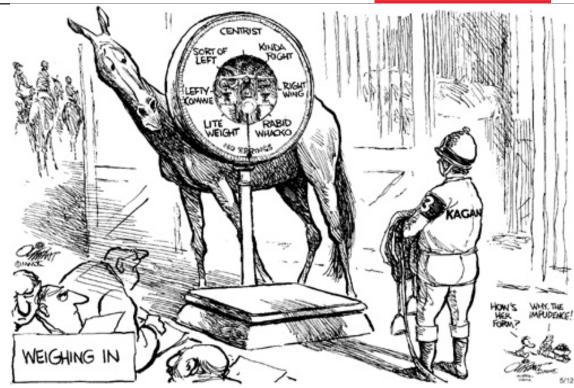
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# US in Iraq: How to get the endgame right

By Bradford Higgins

New Canaan, Conn. – With nearly a trillion dollars spent, more than 4,000 US troops and 100,000 Iraqis killed, and long-term success far from assured, getting the endgame right in Iraq will probably define American foreign policy for many years to come.

That's why, despite the success of Iraq's recent elections and the imminent drawdown of US forces there, the United States needs to reflect on its dismal record in similar endgames, from Vietnam in 1975, to Afghanistan in 1989, and Iraq in 1991 – and then consider the role of women.

In its purest form, the war on terror is a war over ideas and values. Education is one of its most important and effective frontline weapons. Unfortunately, millions of Iraqis, including an entire generation of youth, know nothing of American ideas and values; their limited encounters are with heavily armed US troops in armored vehicles.

During the cold war, Fulbright programs, international visitor exchanges, and similar public and private educational and cultural programs created four decades of friends for the US.

Thousands of those friends rose to senior government and private-sector positions in their own countries. Even then, such funding paled in comparison with US war funding.

Now such educational exchange programs seem to be almost nonexistent compared with the level of US military funding. This is a huge mistake.

The enormous political and diplomatic value of such education programs has certainly not been lost on other nations.

At one end of this spectrum are extremist-funded religious schools (madrasas) that proselytize radical views, creating a steady and growing stream of terrorists. At the other end of the spectrum consider Iran: It has been estimated that for every Iraqi studying in the US, 100 are studying in Tehran. One can only wonder what type of influence 500 US-trained Iraqi managers and teachers will have in five years compared

with the 50,000 trained in Iran.

This wide disparity in commitment to cultural education may very well become a "missile gap," one that the Obama administration and Congress need to address now if they are to win the Iraq endgame. And nowhere in Iraq is this critical imbalance more out of whack – or represents a greater return on investment – than with Iraq's women.

The critical role Iraqi women played in establishing the new government is best reflected in Iraq's passage of constitutional provisions reserving 25 percent of seats in parliament for women. But it was Iraq's first free election, in December 2004, that will forever define their extraordinary contribution to Iraq's future. It also represents one of democracy's finest hours.

Predictions of massive casualties at the polling centers led to real fears that voters would stay home and the election would fail.

To the astonishment of many, and despite numerous acts of violence, it was the older Iraqi women who were the first to appear, and, after casting their own ballots, they returned with their daughters so they could vote. Only later did their husbands and sons start to appear in large numbers to vote

Perhaps the turnout by women reflected their hope of giving their daughters the rights and opportunities they never experienced. Or perhaps they realized that, as women, they had the most to lose if the extremists prevailed.

Whatever the reason, what would have happened to America's experiment in Middle East democracy if these extraordinary mothers had not stepped forward?

During the waning days of the Bush administration, a lone woman, a retired World Bank officer, approached the State Department, seeking funding for a fellowship program by which Iraqi women could study engineering and science at top US academic institutions, and then return to assist in the reconstruction of their country.

She rightly pointed out that while US scholarship

programs are open to men and women, only a women-focused program could counter Iraqi cultural biases that force women to defer to male competitors.

If a debt was owed to anyone, she said, it was to this courageous group of women and to their hopes for their daughters. Sadly, the State Department was able to fund only an initial five scholarships for this program, known as the Iraqi Women's Fellowship Foundation (IWFF).

Three of these Iraqi women scholars were recently in Washington for a conference at the Woodrow Wilson Center. Each held an advanced degree: one in power engineering studying fromStanford University, one in electronic and communication engineering studying from UC-Berkeley and one in information technology from UC San Diego. Each spoke glowingly of their experience at their host institution and of their optimism for Iraq's future. But they acknowledged, too, the challenges from Iraq's 30-year separation from the outside world and the loss of many of its teachers, killed by terrorists.

History shows that the experiences of these talented women, and of the top US universities that host them, have the potential to make such programs one of our best investments.

As the Obama administration develops its plans for supporting the transition to Iraqi self-reliance – and fights another war in Afghanistan, in part to establish and protect the rights of women there – it must not forget the role of education exchanges. Washington should also keep in mind the courage of Iraq's women and the foundational role that they can play in establishing a stable, just, and democratic Iraq.

Bradford Higgins, is former assistant secretary of State for resource management, chief financial officer of the US Department of State, and the first director of strategic planning and assessment for the US Mission in Baghdad. He is a partner in a venture capital firm, and currently serves as chairman of JumpStart International, a humanitarian aid organization.

# Obras de Diego Rivera estarán en subasta de arte latinoamericano

- Una pintura del artista mexicano Diego Rivera, que no ha sido vista en público por más de 50 años, y obras de los artistas más importantes de Latinoamérica serán ofrecidas en una subasta a fines de mes. La venta se llevará a cabo en Sotheby's y contará con un total de 245 piezas, incluyendo el trabajo de Wilfredo Lam "Sur Les Traces", que podría alcanzar la suma de 1,8 millones de dólares, y "The Ordeal of Owain" de la pintora británica Leonora Carrington, que ahora vive en México. Esta última se estima que podría alcanzar entre los 600.000 a 800.000 dólares.

"La selección de la venta es de altísima calidad (...) incluyendo una fantástica sección surrealista", dijo Carmen Melian, directora del departamento de Arte LatinoamericanodeSotheby's, agregando que fue la primera casa de subastas en comenzar a vender arte de la región.

Expertos creen que el mercado latinoamericano arte podría salir beneficiado por las recientes ventas récords en subastas que marcaron un resurgimiento del abatido sector tras un traspié de 18 meses

La pintura "pop" de Jasper Johns "Flag," de una colección que pertenecía al exitoso escritor Michael Crichton, se



Un mural del artista Diego Rivera en un museo de México. Mayo 13 2010. Una pintura del artista mexicano Diego Rivera, que no ha sido vista en público por más de 50 años, y obras de los artistas más importantes de Latinoamérica serán ofrecidas en una subasta a fines de mes. REUTERS/Eliana

vendió en un monto récord de 28,64 millones de dólares el

A principios de mes, la obra de Picasso "Nude, Green Leaves and Bust" fue vendida por más de 106 millones de dólares en Christie's, marcando récord en venta de arte en subasta.

Melian dijo que países latinoamericanos, como Brasil, Perú y Chile, están a la moda en lo económico, es decir, los posibles compradores están dispuestos a gastar.

"Cincuenta por ciento de nuestros compradores son de America Latina y están en posición de contemplar

discretos gastos", explicó Melian. Dos obras de Rivera, una pintura y un mural, serán parte de la venta, incluyendo "Tejedora y los Niños", que ha sido guardada en una colección privada por más de medio siglo.

La creación glorifica la

cultura indígena de México y su precio estimado es de 1,3 millones de dólares, según Sotheby's. Sin embargo, la obra es considerada parte del patrimonio nacional de México por lo que no puede salir del país y debe ser vendida a un coleccionista residente de

La restricción sin duda afectará el precio de venta, pero la reputación de Rivera como un maestro del arte latinoamericano debería compensar toda duda que los compradores puedan tener, dijo Melian. "En México y Latinoamérica, Rivera es un dios", agregó.

Esculturas de la alemana venezonala Gertrudis Goldschmidt, más conocida como Gego, y los primeros trabajos de Claudio Bravo, un artista realista chileno también serán vendidas a la suma más alta ofrecida

Un retrato por Rivera de Gladys March, una periodista estadounidense que pasó seis meses entrevistando al pintor, también estará incluida en la venta. March, luego de eso, escribió un libro sobre el artista. Sus notas de la entrevista y un cuaderno con manuscritos sobre Rivera, que Melian llamó como "el paraíso de un estudiante", también será subastado.

## Senadora colombiana Piedad Córdoba sufre accidente en Madrid

MADRID (AP) - La senadora colombiana de Colombia (18.45 horas de España). Piedad Córdoba sufrió el jueves un accidente de tráfico en Madrid y fue hospitalizada con heridas que no amenazan su vida, informó la embajada de Colombia en España.

El taxi en el que se dirigía Córdoba a impartir una conferencia en la universidad Complutense de Madrid fue embestido por

La senadora fue ingresada en el Hospital La Princesa de la capital española, donde está siendo atendida de un golpe fuerte en la espalda y alguna magulladora, aunque no se teme por su vida.

Córdoba se encontraba en España para participar en distintos actos paralelos convocados en torno a la Cumbre Unión Europea-América Latina-Caribe que se celebra la próxima semana Madrid.

En Bogotá, la oficina de prensa de la senadora, conocida por sus gestiones para la liberación de secuestrados en manos de las guerrillas, divulgó un comunicado indicando que el accidente se produjo a las 9.45 horas

"El taxi... era conducido por un colombiano, informó la senadora. Sufrió un impacto en uno de sus costados por parte de un vehículo particular", agregó.

"De inmediato, llegó una ambulancia y los paramédicos atendieron a la congresista, inmovilizándole el cuello y prestándole los primeros auxilios. En el momento del accidente, la senadora Piedad Córdoba manifestó que sentía un fuerte dolor en la espalda pero que no creía tener lesiones en ningún otro lugar de su cuerpo", añadió.

La senadora dijo "que se siente bien a pesar de estar adolorida", añadió el pronunciamiento de su oficina. En la red social Twitter, la congresista indicó primero que fue internada en una sala de diagnóstico para hacerse unas radiografías y más tarde que era dada de alta y que sólo tenía algunos golpes.

'Ya me van a dar de alta, por suerte no está comprometido ningún órgano vital, sólo golpes, pero hay q(ue) monitorear la columna", dijo Córdoba.

## **Venezuela reforma** ley para controlar dólar paralelo

CARACAS (Reuters) - La Asamblea Nacional de Venezuela sancionó el jueves una reforma legal para tratar de controlar la cotización del dólar paralelo, lo que analistas dicen suprimiría el mercado alternativo de divisas y generaría uno ilegal donde se dispararía aún más el billete verde.

La reforma parcial a la Ley Contra los Ilícitos Cambiarios, que aún debe ser publicada en la Gaceta Oficial para entrar en vigencia, le da exclusividad al Banco Central para la compraventa de divisas -en monedas o títulos valores- a fin de obtener la liquidación de saldos en divisas, para sí o para sus clientes, por su enajenación en fecha previa al vencimiento.

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